

MINUTES
SELECMEN'S/ASSESSORS' MEETING
Tuesday, March 5, 2019
William Pullen Building Meeting Room
6:30 p.m.

Selectmen Present: Greg Grotton, Lyle Cramer, Jim Justice, Sarah Drickey, and John Shepard

Others Present: Jay Feyler, Joel G. Wentworth Sr., Jesse Thompson, Keith Hilt, Donna Bennett, Lori Carlson, Catherine Jackson, Linda Dean, Andrea Smith, Ann Johnson, Judy Murphy, John Gibbons, Sharon Osborne, Martha Johnston-Nash, and Kevin Soule

1. Call Selectmen's meeting to order: 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment:

Eric Amundsen reminded the Board that the 2nd School Budget meeting will take place Monday, March 11th at the Miller School in Waldoboro at 7:00 p.m.

4. Approve minutes of Tuesday February 19, 2019:

Motion by: Sarah Drickey

2nd by: Jim Justice

4-0-1

5. Sign Treasurer's Warrant dated Tuesday, March 5, 2019:

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Sarah Drickey

5-0

6. Jim Murphy Tree Growth Removal as Assessors:

Motion by: Lyle Cramer to approve the tree removal by request of the property owner in the amount of \$8,103.60.

2nd by: Jim Justice

5-0

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7. Friends of TCC Presentation:

The Friends of the TCC recently presented the Board with a quote for an evaluation/research report they would like to have done on the building. Eric Amundsen, a member of the group, was present to ask the Board for attention on the matter. The group would like authorization and funding to proceed with the evaluation, which would indicate realistic possibilities for future operation of the building. Friends of TCC would like to see the Board of Selectmen establish an elected committee. This committee would research and help develop options for the future of the building. The committee, which would consist of approximately twelve elected citizens, will host an open meeting by a professional facilitator with no connection with the town. The Board will be presented with a report of processes and options.

Discussion: Sarah asked if the group is looking to terminate the lease? She stated that was the only way this can be done according to the ordinance, and she suggested speaking with Lori Carlson if they want to break the lease. Eric indicated that the group is merely gathering information for possibilities for the future of the building. Sarah indicated that Lori Carlson is the tenant and the town are the landlords, which means the group must be consulting with Lori. Eric understands the process, although the group would only be collecting data to improve the assets of the building. Greg agrees with Sarah that Lori needs to know what the group is planning.

Martha Johnston-Nash stated that there needs to be a plan and some direction as what is going to happen next concerning the future of the building. The premise is gathering a group that shows interest to help devise a strategy and work together with the town for a solution. She feels there needs to be a public meeting after the town meeting to talk about what the future holds. The town meeting would be a good time to make that announcement of a public meeting.

Jay stated that he likes the idea of a committee; he does not like the idea of the Board forming a committee. He also indicated that when it comes to the budget, the town has no authority, warrant or otherwise unless the lease is changed or revoked.

Greg asked that Eric present him with names for the people on the committee by the next meeting. He and the Board will not help form the committee but are willing to make suggestions. It is a good start to everyone working together. Jim stated that the group should get together with Lori to see what her suggestions and needs may be.

8. Discussion on Fire/Ambulance as one department:

Jay stated in order to combine the fire and ambulance as one organization, there needs to be warrant article. If this is approved by the townspeople, it will not go into effect until

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July 1, 2020. Jay feels that Jesse Thompson and Kevin Soule have done a very good job working together and feels they will be moving forward.

Discussion: Kevin stated that he and Jesse are equally happy with their departments. Nothing is going to change on the street but within the two departments things will be streamlined and run more efficiently. The new protocol will be for the ambulance and the fire engine to respond together. Jesse agreed that streamlining is going to be the best approach and will open more opportunities to receive federal grants.

Motion by: Lyle Cramer to support the combination of Fire/Ambulance.

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

Motion by: Lyle Cramer to put the combination of Fire/Ambulance on the Warrant

2nd by: Jim Justice

5-0

9. Discussion and vote to accept the 400K Sidewalk grant and agree to Town portion:

Jay announced that Union received a \$400,000 sidewalk grant. This will rebuild the sidewalks on Depot Street to Ayer Park. Jay will meet with DOT within the next couple of weeks. Sidewalk construction will not start for approximately three more years because it is a multi-phase project.

Discussion: Jim asked if it includes sewers. Jay stated it does not. Jim asked if they will be handicap accessible. Jay stated they would be. John Shepard thanked Jay for all his hard work in receiving the grant, as this has been an important issue in town.

Motion by: Jim Justice to accept the \$400,000 grant for the sidewalk construction.

2nd by: Lyle Cramer

5-0

10. Review and vote on updated Credit Card policy:

Jay stated that these are small changes from the current policy that our auditor has recommended we make.

Discussion: John asked if the balance is paid in full each month. Jay confirmed that it is paid off each month. Sarah asked if there was a policy for misuse of the card by a town employee. Jay stated immediate dismissal from their position.

Motion by: Jim Justice to approve changes to credit card policy

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

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11. Review and vote on updated Purchasing Policy:

Jay stated this is an update on the current purchasing policy, changes being the dollar amounts.

Motion by: John Shepard to amend the purchasing policy

2nd by: Jim Justice

5-0

12. LED Street Lighting RFP discussion and vote:

Jay is looking for the Board's approval to have him sign and authorize the contract for LED streetlighting.

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Sarah Drickey

5-0

13. Discussion on Electronic Sign funding:

Jay stated he was asked to put the electronic sign back on the warrant. The current options are quotes for a 10mm and a 16mm. There is a \$10,000 price difference between the two. Both are dimmable and have multiple settings

Discussion: Jim feels this should be kept as a separate article on the warrant. Greg stated that the clarity of the sign should be taken into consideration.

Motion by: Lyle Cramer to authorize Jay to proceed adding the electronic sign to the budget for the 10mm for \$31,300.

2nd by Jim Justice

5-0

Motion by: Jim Justice to add as a separate line item on the warrant for town vote.

2nd by: John Shepard

4-1 (Sarah Drickey opposed)

14. Discussion on Spirit of America Award and Town Report Dedication:

The Board voted for the Spirit of America Award.

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15. Town Manager's Report:

Jay stated the importance of a couple of LTC bills coming up. He strongly recommends that residents write or call our state representatives opposing the Revenue Sharing and Road Posting bills.

16. Other Business:

Jay asked the Board how they would like to handle the Poulin account and IC Thurston account on the warrant. He stated currently, the wording in both Wills state that the funds should be allocated by the Board of Selectmen. To remain transparent, they should remain on the warrant.

Discussion: John feels that they should stay on the warrant in order to remain transparent. Lyle agrees with John. Greg feels that there are no additional advantages, although he has found through the attorney that the contributors of the funds prefer it to be handled by the Board. He personally feels that it should be put on the warrant for the public to vote.

Motion by: Greg Grotton to have a separate warrant article for the people to vote whether the Poulin and IC Thurston funds are allocated in a different manner or remain the same.

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

17. Selectmen's Report:

18. Future Agenda Items:

19. Adjourn:

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Patrick
Secretary